

10/589815

IAP6 Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 AUG 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tohru KATO et al. : Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2006_1378A

Filed August 17, 2006 :

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
PRODUCING HYDROGEN
[Corresponding to PCT/JP2005/002420
Filed February 17, 2005]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the reference listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/_____; and/or
- each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No. _____.

1a. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted
after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:
(1) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
(2) the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:
after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:
the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and
the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

- a. that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- b. that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

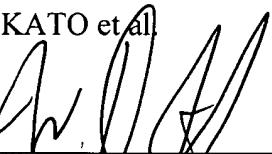
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3. Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
 - a. a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at pages 2-3, 12, 25 and 26,
 - d. the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
JP 2004-060041 corresponds to US 2004/0124095 A1.
5. A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tohru KATO et al.

By


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August 17, 2006

Sheet 1 of 1		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT					
FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: August 17, 2006			ATTY DOCKET NO. 2006_1378A		SERIAL NO. NEW 10/589815		
			APPLICANT Tohru KATO et al.				
			FILING DATE August 17, 2006		GROUP		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	2004/0124095 A1	07/04	Fujimura et al.			
	AB	6,051,125	04/00	Pham et al.			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AJ	2004-60041	02/04	JP			Abstract
	AK	2002-285367	10/02	JP			Abstract
	AL	11-269684	10/99	JP			Abstract
	AM	04-350188	12/92	JP			Abstract
	AN	2004-010952	01/04	JP			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.